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14

A SHORT VIEW OF THE *FRAUDS*, and *ABUSES* Committed by APOTHECARIES:

As well in Relation to

PATIENTS, as *PHYSICIANS*:

AND

Of the only Remedy thereof by *PHYSICIANS* making their own

MEDICINES.

BY

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—— *Fingunt se Medicos omnes Idiota, Sacerdos, Nutrix, & Tonsor,* Pharmacopæus, *Anus.*

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A Short View *of the* Frauds *and* Abuſes *committed by* Apothecaries, *as well in Relation to* Patients, *as* Phyſicians; *and of the only remedy thereof by* Phyſicians *making their own Medicines.*

DOubtleſs it will ſeem ſtrange to moſt men, that after 30 years not unſucceſsful practice in this great City, I ſhould now at laſt forbear ſending my Bills to the *Apothecaries*, knowing that hereby a whole Company of men intereſſed in the World (who by their number, noiſe, and tricks, may be able to decry any *Phyſician*) will become my implacable adverſaries, and by their private whiſpers of untrue tales, will endeavour to their utmoſt, either to keep me from any new, or ſhuffle me out of my fixt imployment. But not fearing the utmoſt their malice can invent, or proclaim; I ſhall publickly aſſert what I privately practiſe, preferring the publick good, and the honour of my profeſſion before my own private profit. And although I have had ſome experience what their groundleſs anger can do, when they ſome years ſince proclaimed me in their publick Hall their Enemy, for

acting the *Colledg* Intereſt, and of late for ſaving my Patients lives and purſes, by diſpencing *gratis* my Medicines: Yet I hope no indifferent perſon when he knows that I have thus long ſlighted their weak endeavours, will believe I can now at length have ſo poor an end as revenge; eſpecially when they ſhall conſider on the one hand, the univerſal and daily complaints of both *Patient* and *Phyſician*, the great cauſe that they have to do ſo, and the little hope of a remedy, and on the other beſides that general obligation all men have of doing their Country-men good, the particular neceſſity I have of juſtifying my actions, by leaving the World their judg upon the account I ſhall here deliver of them; and laſtly, that which will leave my Enemies not any objection, I take upon me not only a great trouble, but charge, without any other deſign then doing mankind good, and reſtoring my profeſſion to its ancient and deſerved honours. And had I none of theſe inducements, I am ſure the vulgar excuſe of friends importunities cannot be objected againſt me, when I muſt acknowledge that many of my Collegues and other Practiſers in ſeveral parts, upon reading theſe papers furniſhed me not only with ſome bad practices of their own experience, but thereupon enjoyned the publiſhing of them. Neither are all their frauds and abuſes here inſerted, the reſt perhaps more in number, being reſerved to another opportunity. I ſhall only add by way of preface; that the laſt year a Book was printed on the ſame argument, by an inquiſitive perſon, now *Dr.* in *Phyſick*, which might have ſpared me this labour, but that it was too large for every ones reading, and in ſome things ſhort. It was his fate to be called by

them

them *Fool*, *Ass*, and *Simple Fellow*, and much worse language, and that some of their *Boys* should answer him. But upon more serious thoughts, the whole Company have suffered it to find the credit it well deserves, without the least reply but that of revilings.

In these ensuing papers, I hope to prove, that these abuses complain'd of by all sorts of persons, arise from this only cause, that *Physicians* dispence not themselves such Medicines, they use for the relief of their Patients, but commit this work to the *Apothecaries*.

Now the *Apothecaries* abuses generally relate either to the *Medicines*, *Patients*, or *Physicians*; which three do comprehend all I shall say on this subject.

But the Reader is to take notice, that all here charged on the *Apothecaries*, is not meant of every single one, but of some, or more of them, and may in a short time in all probability be verified of them all, according as their number, and bold daring in *Physick* increase.

But before I descend to particulars, I shall first lay down this *Proposition*, their own confession, and in their own Language, viz. *That they may be the veriest Knaves in England*. Because they may put in bad ingredients, and more or less then the composition requires, substitute one thing for another; and all this without being detected, and consequently not to be punished for such misdemeanors; but more especially in Medicines for private mens uses, wherein they may do what they please without the least discovery of the *Patient*, and from this general confession of theirs, it clearly follows, that whatsoever deceit, covetous

wits.

wits can invent, may at leaſt be ſuſpected to be true of them, and whatſoever is here alledged may find eaſier belief.

And Secondly, Moſt men wonder, that this *Corporation* but of few years ſtanding, and to the ſetting up of whoſe trade ſo ſmall a Stock is neceſſary; that they ſhould live ſo high, ſpend ſo freely, gain ſo great Eſtates, by their return of ſo little money yearly, which how 'tis done every man may conceive as he liſt.

More particularly, the Frauds by them committed relate either to their falſifying of *Medicines*, or ſecondly, to the number of their Bills and preſcriptions, or thirdly, to the prices of them.

Firſt, They uſe *Medicines* quite contrary to the preſcription, *Myrtle-leafs* ſhewed the *Cenſors* for *Sena*, a Binder for a Purger. *Muſhrooms* rub'd over with Chalk for *Agaric*, *Hemlock-Dropwort* Roots for *Pæony* Roots. *Privet* by ſome, by others *Dog-beries*, for thoſe of *Spina Cervina*, no Purgers for a ſtrong one. *Sheeps Lungs* for *Fox Lungs*, the *Bone* of an *Oxe Heart* for that of a *Stags Heart*, *Damſons* for *Damaſc Prunes*, Syrup of *Limons* for that of *Citrons*, *Bryony* Roots for *Mechoacan*, &c.

Secondly, They falſify the grand Compoſitions of the *London Diſpenſatory*. It being a common trade with them to buy unſound, and decayed *Medicines* of ſome *Druggiſts*, and to return them back ſo much of the compoſition as will pay for the Simples. Secondly, whereas *Apothecaries* are bound to ſhew publickly to the *Cenſors* of the *Colledg*, and the *Maſter* and *Wardens* of their Company, *Mithridate*, *Diaſcordium*, *Alkermes*, &c.

Yet

Yet for all this ſome of them privately make a great deal more of the Compoſition then is ſhewed of unſound Drugs, and ſome without any view at all; others put in the Scrapings that ought to be thrown away; and by theſe Arts they under-ſell, and ruine one another, ſelling the Compoſition at a lower rate then good Ingredients coſt them; and with theſe complaints they daily mutiny amongſt themſelves.

Thirdly, 'Tis very common for them to load Medicines with Honey, and other cheaper ingredients, and to leave out in whole or in part, thoſe of greater valne; *viz. Saffron* in *Ruffus* Pills, and in *Oxycroceum* Plaſter, *Ambergriſe* in *Alkermes*, &c. *Diaſcordium* was found by the *Cenſors* in their ſearch made only of *Honey*, and *Bole-Armeniac.*

Such *Chymiſts* which ſell preparations honeſtly made, complain that few Apothecaries will go to the price of them. Whence it comes to paſs, that moſt of the preparations found in the Shops are ſophiſticated, to the great abuſe of City and Country. Theſe abuſes daily increaſe ſince the Cenſors, diſcouraged by the multitude of *Empirics* ſwarming in every Corner, have omitted their wonted ſearches, being to their loſs of time, and expences out of their own Purſes for the publick good only. Now ſince the *Chymical* Oyls, by reaſon of their great price, are moſt of them adulterated, and very few of them right good, and that nothing hath been publiſhed on this matter, and to leave the buyers of them unexcuſable, I ſhall here add briefly, yet ſufficiently the ways to diſcover theſe Cheats. Firſt for ſweet-ſcented *Chymical* Oyls, *viz.* thoſe of *Cloves*, *Cinnamon*, and *Saſſaphras.* Only drop a little of them into fair water, and that part which is true

good will ſink under the water, but the adulterated part will ſwim on the top of it. Some others draw deep tinctures from the ſaid Spices with Spirit of Wine highly rectified, and ſell them for the Oyls; but theſe mix with the water throughout, neither ſwimming, nor ſinking. Others more craftily digeſt with the ſaid tinctures ſome of the true Oyls, which compound being put into water, will diſcover by the ſinking part, how little of the Oyl is in a great quantity of the tincture. Another way of ſophiſticating is with Oyl of *Turpentine* mixed in great quantity with that which is adulterated; You may eaſily diſcover the Oyl of *Turpentine*, by ſetting it on fire, for it yields abundance of ill-ſcented ſmoak, with very little ſavour of the Herb, and ſoon takes fire. To correct the ill ſmell of the *Turpentine*, they digeſt it with, and diſtil it off with *Spirit of Wine*. Thoſe ſophiſticated with *Turpentine*, fired in a Silver Spoon colour it, and quickly diffuſe themſelves upon a Knife, or Paper. The beſt way to try by firing, is to put a drop or two of theſe Oyls on the point of a broad Knife, which being firſt heated, and then thruſt into a lighted Candle, preſently take fire, and break out into a flame with much dark ſmoak; but if you will try them in a Spoon, heat it firſt over a Candle, and then blow the flame of lighted paper, or of a Wax Candle on them. To try the ſcent, blow out the flame of the good Oyls, and your ſmell will ſoon diſcover the ill ſcent of the *Turpentine* from that of the good Oyl. But on the contrary, all Oyls drawn from Plants by diſtillation hardly flame, and the flame ſoon goes out, and the ſmoak gives a full flavour of the Plant it ſelf, whereas thoſe ſophiſticated as before, differ from the true in both. The ſame Oyls are alſo ſophiſticated

ted with cheap ones drawn from decayed *Oringes*, and *Limons*; Your ſmell will ſoon diſcover theſe mixtures. A third way of ſophiſticating *Chymical* Oyls is, by mixing with them ſuch Oyls as are made by expreſſion, which are eaſily diſcovered by rubbing them on white paper, which being held and dryed at the fire, the *Chymical* part ſoon flyes away, and leaves the paper tranſparent, looking like oyled paper; but pure *Chymical* Oyls totally fly away, leaving the paper white as 'twas before, but not tranſparent. As for Oyls drawn by *Retort*, they all of them ſmell ſo ſtrong of the fire, that neither ſmell nor taſt can well diſcover any fraud in them. As for the *fixed Salts*, moſt of them are made of the Aſhes of *Tabacco ſtalks*, &c. More might be ſaid for the diſcovery of the Cheats of other *Chymical* preparations, which ſhall be reſerved to another opportunity, and had Phyſicians juſt encouragement, they would ſpend both their time and moneys on the like diſcoveries for the publick.

Fifthly, Add to the former (though perhaps 'tis an errour of ignorance only) that if ſuch Simples are preſcribed they know not, they fetch from the Herb-women what they give them, true or falſe; for many of theſe Women give to very many Plants falſe names; Now if the *Apothecary* be ſo careful to conſult an Herbal, which few have, and fewer know how to make uſe of, and then too frequently miſtake the thing by reaſon of ſeveral names given to the ſame thing, or of one name to ſeveral things, though many of them conſult the common *Dictionaries* only, which are moſt erroneous in the names of natural things;

inſomuch that in my firſt practice, being curious of theſe particulars, I have found two or three miſtaken in one preſcription, a Catalogue of which miſtakes, and names ill given, I had collected, but the late fire conſumed it, though many my memory hath reſerved.

Sixthly, Many of the *London*, and moſt of the *Country-Apothecaries*, buy of the whole-ſale men, who affirm of one another, eſpecially of ſuch who gain great eſtates in ſhort time, that they cannot ſell their Medicines honeſtly made at ſo low a rate as they do.

Seventhly, I ſhall need to ſay little of ſuch *diſtilled waters*, as diſcover themſelves neither to ſmell, nor taſt, but ſhall only recite a known Story of an *Apothecary*, who chid his man for ſending away a Cuſtomer that came for *Plantan* water, telling him there was enough at the Pump.

Eighthly, As for *Ointments*, and *Plaſters*, they are ſold by ſome at ſo low a price, that 'tis not poſſible to make them at, and yet ſuch however falſifyed maintain a trade among Country, and low-priced City-*Apothecaries*, and the *Chirurgeons* profeſs they cannot effect their Cures with the Shop Medicins, and that this is the reaſon why they make their own *Oyls*, *Oyntments*, &c. as the *Apothecaries* Charter allows them to do; and why may not *Phyſicians* think this to be the cauſe why they ſometimes fail in their Cures, as well as *Chirurgeons*; and alſo make their own Medicines as well as they, eſpecially ſince the *Apothecary* may as eaſily falſify, and to greater profit in the one, then in the other?

Ninthly, As to their uſe of decayed *Drugs*, 'tis ſo common

common a practice that I need not give inſtances of it, beſides their pretty knacks (as they call them) of making their Compounds fair to the eye, reſtoring them to their colour and conſiſtence, that they may paſs for good, which perhaps 'tis better to paſs over in ſilence, leſt by confuting I ſhould teach the younger Fry, who may yet be honeſtly ignorant, as likewiſe for their ſubſtituting one thing for another, and detracting where they pleaſe, I ſhall add a Story of an *Apothecary*, who commanded his man (who told him they had no good *Rhubarb* in the houſe) that he ſhould put in double quantity of what they had.

Tenthly, I ſhall conclude this ungrateful Diſcourſe, with ſaying that by reaſon more frauds may be committed by the *Apothecaries*, then by any other Trade, and by ſuppoſition that gain will tempt moſt men to diſhoneſt actions, eſpecially where they may act undiſcovered; I ſay that this ſeems to be the cauſe why they have two Superviſors ſet over them more then any Company that I know of, *viz.* the *Cenſors* of the *College* of *Phyſicians*, and the *Maſters* and *Wardens* of their own Company.

The next thing is the multiplying their Bills and Medicines, 1. When in long laſting Diſeaſes a *Phyſician* is conſulted, they go on with the ſame preſcription frequently enough to the Patients great diſadvantage, both of health and purſe.

Secondly, By giving and intermixing Medicines of their own Phancy, with the *Phyſicians* preſcriptions, *viz.* ſome pleaſing Medicine, whereby too often the *Phyſicians* intention is quite croſt, and the effect made uncertain.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, By giving Medicines themſelves on ſmall accounts, and ſuch as require only a good ordering, and no more.

Fourthly, By repeating long courſes of *Phyſick* unadviſedly, and needleſly, when either nothing, or very little is needful to be done.

Fifthly, By creating diſeaſes in eaſie mens Phanſies, and ſo decoying them into courſes of *Phyſick*.

Sixthly, Some of them get private and worthleſs receipts, and ſell them at what rate they pleaſe; Mr. *Delaune* by one Pill alone, though not a very ſafe one, got ſome thouſands of pounds.

Seventhly, If one of them get a private receipt from a *Phyſician* called by the inventer his *Noſtrum*, if another *Apothecary* have occaſion to uſe it, he ſhall be ſure to pay ſawce for it.

Eighthly, Another trick is when the Patient is cured, and the *Phyſician* therefore hath given over his Viſits, then comes the *Apothecary* and inſinuates by his words and paſſions, either ſome danger of relapſe, or ſome other preſent diſtemper, and repairs to the *Phyſician* for a Bill to cure the imaginary diſeaſe.

Ninthly, But their principal Art of all is, to cry up, and bring into *Patients* ſuch unworthy *Phyſicians*, who through covetouſneſs do, or through meanneſs of parts or want, muſt comply with the *Apothecaries* Intereſt, and ſuch Practiſers they extol and cry up for good *Phyſicians* which ſome of them call more expreſly good *Apothecaries Phyſicians*, and ſuch without doubt, the whole Company will raiſe unto a fame and practice. But ſuch as write only for the good of the Patient, and not at all for the benefit of the *Apothecary*

(as

(as all honeſt men ought to do) they will endeavour to prevent their calling in, or ſhuffle out.

Now this good *Apothecaries Phyſician*, they deſcribe by his frequent though needleſs viſits, but eſpecially the multitude of his Bills by his viſiting twice a day, or oftner (a very careful and painful *Dr.*) and by ſtill writing new Medicines, when half the former, or perhaps none of them have been taken, making an *Apothecaries* Shop in the *Patients* Houſe, planting the Cupboards and Windows with Glaſſes and Galley-Pots, and not a quarter of the whole made uſe of. He preſcribes a Medicine for every ſlight complaint, and never goes away from the *Patient*, or the *Patient* from him, without a Bill, for fear of the *Apothecaries* grumbling.

And from this burdening the ſick with multiplicity of Medicines, too often contrary to, and deſtructive one of another, it proceeds that in the *Small Pox*, and *Meaſles*, many are afraid to uſe *Phyſicians*, and commit the care of the ſick to *Nurſes*, and *Old Women*, and perhaps ſometimes not without cauſe, for by continual multiplication of Medicines, the humours of the body may be made or kept in too great a ſtate of fluidity, whence the *Flux* followeth. Whereas a Medicine or two duly adminiſtred, may ſuffice to bring them well forth, and then there needs no more but good ordering, unleſs perhaps ſome accident ariſe, which may require further care. And here as well as in other Caſes, the *Patient* is to be rectified, who requires the *Phyſicians* Viſits, and yet diſmiſſeth him without a reward, unleſs he writes a Bill, whereas it might have been better if nothing at all had been preſcribed;

ſcribed, and the *Phyſician* left to his own judgment; and hence it is that many enlarge their Bills, that the Patient may think that he hath enough for his money, whereby the *Apothecary* is gratified, who ought to commend the Medicines as neceſſary for the ſick perſon, and ſingular in themſelves, whereas in truth this great farcy proves ungrateful to the taſt and ſtomach; inconvenient to health, by curing one diſeaſe, but creating more; and by this means keeping them continually in a way of *Phyſick*.

A third abuſe of the *Apothecaries* relates to the prices of their Medicines; firſt they put what rates they pleaſe on their Simples, Compounds, and Receipts, and none are judges of them, but thoſe of their own Trade. Whereas the *Colledges of Phyſicians* beyond Sea, yearly ſet a tax upon the *Simples*, and *Compounds* of the Shops. So that the Cuſtomer can tell the price of what he hath occaſion to uſe, and not ſtand at the mercy of the *Apothecary* to rate them as he liſts, and to this purpoſe they put in print the prices of them.

Secondly, Suppoſe a *Phyſician* hath preſcribed a Pint of *Juleb*, &c. to be taken at four ſeveral times, ſome *Apothecaries* carry not the whole pint at once, but divide it into four parts, and carry but one at a time, and ſo of other Medicines, and then will charge his Bill for every ſingle *Potion*, or Draught, as he ought the whole Pint; ſo that by this Art he gains four times as much for the whole Medicine as in Conſcience he ought; and a *Juleb*, which coſt him ſix pence, will be rated at 10 12, or more Shillings. But perhaps 'tis fit he ſhould be payed for his created Viſits, and for this

this unneceſſary officiouſneſs, the Nobility, and Gentry may be contented to pay roundly, if they pleaſe.

Thirdly, When a *Phyſician* hath preſcribed 20 Pills, ſome of the *Apothecaries* will make 30 of them, under pretence the *Patient* cannot ſwallow them elſe; now reckoning each Pill at a certain rate (as they uſually do) they gain a third part more then they ought.

Fourthly, To advance the prices, you ſhall hardly ever ſee a Bill without *Bezoar*, or *Pearls* in it, to make people think them very chargeable; whereas ſometimes there is not above a grain or two of theſe dear ingredients in it, and a few grains of theſe or *Ambergriſe* doubles or trebles the prices of the Medicines, and are ſure never to be omitted in their Bills, beſides the guilding of the Pills, and covering their *Boluſſes*, and *Electuaries* with *Gold* (which have only an imaginary and no real uſe in Medicines ſo uſed) much inhanſeth their prices, and a rich *Cordial* inſerted exceedingly advanceth moſt of their Bills.

Fifthly, Some *Apothecaries* offer, and perhaps ſome *Phyſicians* have taken preſents to help them to Cuſtomers, which muſt neceſſarily be ſqueazed out of their higher rated Medicines.

Sixthly, I have heard ſome prudent perſons complain of their bringing in their Bills but once in a year, or two; ſuppoſing they made them pay *Lombards* Uſury for their forbearance. And through this neglect they ſometimes loſe their money, and whether they raiſe other Mens Bills to make up theſe loſſes, I affirm not.

Seventhly, Another cauſe of raiſing their prices is,

a neceſſity of keeping in their Shops ſuch Medicines as are ſeldom uſed, or ſuch as muſt upon neceſſity decay, and grow uſeleſs. Now ſuppoſe they throw ſuch away, this reaſon is good, but you will find a remedy for this hereafter.

To conclude this ſecond Complaint. By reaſon of the dear Bills of the *Apothecaries*, many are deterred from going to the *Phyſician*, and run to common *Mountebanks*, and I think this to be the reaſon (as ſome diſabuſed perſons have confeſſed to me) why they have ſo much cryed up the abilities of *Apothecaries* for practice, becauſe they will ſave their credit in taking *Phyſick* of them. St. *Auguſtine* candidly in his Book of Confeſſions declares, that through covetouſneſs he repeated a courſe of *Phyſick*, without conſulting the *Phyſician* (who had before cured him of the ſaid diſeaſe) to his greater charge, danger of his life, and offence againſt God.

Having done with the *Apothecaries* abuſes relating chiefly to the *Patients* Health and Purſe, and ſuch as are willfully committed (though all of them reflect on the *Phyſician*) I ſhall now touch on a few neglects, and miſtakes proving often very miſchievous.

Firſt, They frequently miſtake the *Phyſician's* directions, which of what dangerous conſequence it is, every one can tell.

Secondly, They carry a Medicine appointed for one ſick perſon to another.

Thirdly, They often neglect the ſending of Medicines in due time, eſpecially ſuch as have no Servants, or but raw ones, when the Maſter is out of Town, or upon long viſits.

Having

Having now done with the *Apothecaries* as they relate principally to the ſick, I ſhall in the next place ſpeak of them, as they relate to *Phyſicians*, and that either to the profeſſion in general, or to the particular practicers of it.

As to the *Phyſicians* in general, they endeavour to extirpate them, and ſome have been ſo bold to ſay, they hope in few years to ſee never a *Phyſician* in *London*, and to profeſs they will ſcramble with them for practice. And that this hath been and is their intention, the following particulars will clearly demonſtrate.

Firſt, They have always endeavoured and aimed at the depreſſion and ruine of the *Colledg* of *Phyſicians*, the only *Corporation* of that Art in *England*, conſidering rightly, that the depreſſion of the *Colledg* is their intereſt and riſe, and the total ſubverſion of it will make them abſolute Maſters in *Phyſick*, and *Phyſicians* their Servants. In Order hereunto they have conſtantly, both publickly and privately oppoſed the *Colledg*, in whatſoever hath been offered to ſetle the liberty of practice on them, their only priviledg and ſubſiſtence, though they have been offered all they could deſire for the ſecurity of their Trade, and legal employment, and far beyond whatſoever any Corporation of *Apothecaries* in all, or in any forreign part enjoy, yet nothing would ever content them, but an unlawful, unreaſonable, dangerous, and deſtructive Uſurpation of liberty to ſome pretended practice, that thereby they might gain the whole.

Secondly, They have continually traduced the *Colledg*, and troubled them in *Parliaments*, at the *Council*

board, &c. to their great charge and moleſtation. And for ſuch their great demerits againſt the *Colledg*, the *King* and his *Council*, *Anno* 1639. granted a *Quo Warranto* to the *Attorney General* (the *Judges* having firſt heard the whole matter) to take away their *Charter*, which doubtleſs had been effected, had not the troubles, and long civil War immediately enſued.

Thirdly, And in this preſent *Parliament*, how did they endeavour to prepoſſeſs the Members of the Houſe of Commons with ſtrange, and falſe prejudices and aſſertions drawn from irrational, and groundleſs ſuppoſitions, making us the greateſt Tyrants in the World, inferring ridiculouſly that a *Lady*, or Charitable *Gentlewoman* (for in that believing Sex they have gain'd a great deal of ground by their falſities) might not give the poor a *Cordial*, &c. without being queſtioned by the *Colledg!* whereas they know in their Conſciences, that the *Colledg* hath power enough by their firſt Charter to act as much in this kind againſt themſelves, and all other perſons, as they deſired of this preſent *Parliament*; And yet neither *Apothecary*, or any who practiſed charitably, were ever troubled for ſo doing. They pretended alſo they were abridged wholly from their Trade, and might not ſell a penny-worth of *Mithridate*, &c. without a *Doctors* Bill. Whereas there's not a word in the Charter to that purpoſe; the ſole intent whereof was to keep them as well as other *Mountebanks*, from preſcribing (which they call ſelling) the *Phyſicians* only livelyhood. And as to the Bill it ſelf ſo much railed on by them in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, *Coffee-Houſes*, *Ale-Houſes*, &c. 'tis eaſie to make it out, that this Charter as propoſed

poſed gives the *Apothecaries* more liberty and freedom of exerciſing their lawful Trade, then is enjoyed in any other Nation where both Corporations are erected; and that it doth in nothing infringe, or diminiſh their freedom as *Citizens*, or their Charter as *Apothecaries*; and that our Charter was compiled by ſome, and peruſed and approved by others the moſt eminent *Lawyers* in *England* for Worth and Place; and yet none of theſe could find any thing in it either Illegal, Tyrannical, or unfit to be deſired of the *Parliament*. Nay many miſ-informed Members being rightly inſtructed in the true ſtate of the matter, have acknowledged the juſtice of it; And was no more then King *James* by his Letters Patents, dated the 18 *th.* of *October*, in the 15 *th.* year of his Reign, granted to the ſaid Colledg; and being almoſt nothing elſe but a ſupply of what was ſhort in their former Grants, *viz.* That whereas their Charter granted by King *Henry* the Eighth, gave power to puniſh offenders in the practice of Phyſick; and becauſe there was no power given to ſummon, nor penalty impoſed for the non-appearance of ſuch offenders; therefore by their non-appearance, the ſaid power of the Cenſors was eluded; for no ſuch offenders would appear before them, and conſequently no puniſhment could be inflicted on them, according to the true meaning of the ſaid Act. Now this Charter ſo much declaimed againſt, prayed only a ſupply of this defect, and alſo better and more neceſſary ways and means, without which, ſuch and all other offenders againſt the lives and healths of his Majeſties Subjects could not be diſcovered; and they had reaſon not to doubt a grant of the ſaid power,

ſince

ſince by the ſaid Charter a power was granted them to impriſon offenders, whom the Keepers of the Priſons would not receive, becauſe no command, nor penalty was impoſed on them, for not receiving ſuch offenders ſent by the Cenſors (a thing ridiculous to our preſent Lawyers) however this defect was ſupplyed by an Act in the firſt of Queen *Mary*. Now whereas ſince the making of the ſaid Acts and Powers, granted to the Colledg ſeveral other Trades, beſides the *Apothecaries*, relating to Phyſick (being then all Members of the Grocers Company) *viz.* Druggiſts, Chymiſts, Sellers of Strong-waters and Oyls, have aroſe diſtinct from each others, and many abuſes have been and are committed in each of them, as they all confeſs. The ſaid Charter prays for the publick good only (there being the ſame reaſon of all) they might have the ſame power of Surveying them alſo, as they have of the *Apothecaries*, which moſt of the Judicious, and ſober of the ſaid Companies, as well in relation to their own private profit, and alſo the publick, by having all Medicines good, did not oppoſe, but liked well of. Nay there was nothing in the ſaid Charter, but what was judged good by all or moſt of the Judges of *England*, ſeveral times convened by Order of the King and his Council, to deliver their opinions concerning ſome Quæries, which compriſed the main of what was deſired and petitioned for by the Colledg, of this preſent Parliament. But before the *Committee* could make report to the Houſe, the *Parliament* was adjourned, whereupon *Apothecaries* falſly gave out, and made people believe our Charter was taken from us. And in this tranſaction before the *Committee*, one *Cocket* an

Apothecary

Apothecary exhibited in the name of the *Chymists* such a Scandalous Libel, as the *Committee* would not suffer to be read; drawn as some conceive by the assistance, and countenance, if not contrivance of his Company.

Before our presenting this Charter to the *Parliament*, they would admit no Arbitrators betwixt our Corporation, and Theirs, not contenting themselves with their Charter lately granted in *King James's Reign*, and that by the procurement of some of our *Colledg* for these unthankful persons. For they would not refer themselves (as the Chirurgeons without many words or dispute did) to the most upright, and most knowing Sir *Orlando Bridgman* then *Lord Chief Justice*, and now *Lord Keeper*, for a clause to be by him drawn, in order to preserve their immunities and Charter, which they refused, fearing belike he would exclude them from the Practice of *Physick*, which the Law hath already done, and which is all they could doubt of; but the Corporation of *Chirurgeons* did acquiesce in the clause drawn by the said *Lord Chief Justice*, and never appeared before the Committee against the said Charter.

Their increasing disrespect, and undervaluing the Colledg, appears in this, that of late years they place our Censors invited to their new Masters Dinner, at their second Table; whereas always heretofore they were seated at the first Table, next to the Master of the Company.

And to hinder the building of a New Colledg, and the Contribution of the Honorary Fellows thereunto, they tell them that we deceived them in their admission,

on, and never intend the building of a New Colledg, though a large contribution hath been made, and ground purchaſed in order thereunto by the Members of their Corporation.

And their further deſign appears in their great triumphing, and rejoycing when any illiterate perſon hath gained any reputation for a Cure performed, eſpecially where Phyſicians have been concerned, though the Patients neglect or obſtinateneſs, have been the ſole cauſe of this non-performance, and by their continued detraction from Phyſicians, and applauding themſelves, hoping by the former, that people will think ſuch Mountebanks able to do better Cures then learned Phyſicians, and then they can eaſily inſinuate themſelves ſuperior to ſuch Mountebanks, and conſequently to Phyſicians. By the latter, they ſeek to depreſs, and level us to themſelves, being conſcious they can never riſe to that worth and ability, required in a Phyſician.

Another manifeſt ſign of their endeavour to uſurp our Practice is, their abſurd calling the ſick their Patients, for 'tis moſt certain that in all reaſon and language the Phyſician and Patient only have relation to each other, but not to the Apothecary, who is but a Tradeſman, and manual Operator. Now a Tradeſman and his Cuſtomer, or Chapman, are Relatives each to other, but thoſe Apothecaries who intrude themſelves and uſurp on our profeſſion, may call their Cuſtomers Patients, and that in a true literal ſence, when by their ignorance they make them really ſufferers under them; and if they deny Apothecary and Patient to be non-ſence, they ſhew themſelves pitifully ignorant

ignorant in the Laws, and Rules of Reaſon, or elſe profeſs themſelves *Phyſicians*.

Having done with the main part of the Diſeaſe, next follows the Remedy; and the only firm and proper one will appear to be, that *Phyſicians* make their own Medicines; the benefit whereof to the publick, the reaſonableneſs of the thing it ſelf, the neceſſity in relation to the Phyſician, will be manifeſt by that which follows.

And *Firſt*, All that hath been ſaid demonſtrates this laſt propoſition.

Secondly, The deſire of moſt perſons, and the cenſure of all wiſe men, who ſay we are wanting to our own intereſt, if we make not uſe of the remedy in our own hands, performing our Art in all its members, whereof making of Medicines is a chief one.

Thirdly, The common practice, and conſtant uſage of all former and antient *Phyſicians* in all other Nations, and in *England* alſo (for 'tis eaſie to ſay when there was not one *Apothecary* in this Kingdom) the Laws of our Nation, nay even the *Apothecaries* Charter allow it, the Language of all *Phyſicians*, our *Colledg* voting it honourable ſo to do, nay *Apothecaries* themſelves commending it in ſuch *Phyſicians* as buy their Medicines of them.

Fourthly, The Kings *Phyſicians* have been formerly ſworn to make the Kings Medicines, and I am told by one of his preſent Majeſties *Phyſicians*, that they are ſworn to the ſame purpoſe, or at leaſt to ſee them made, and that the King himſelf affirms we are unwiſe in neglecting our duty herein.

Fifthly, *Chirurgeons* (as before) will not truſt them to

make external Remedies; and the King, and *East-India* Company commit the making of their Chests for their Fleets to the *Chirurgeons*.

Sixthly, Have not Ladies and Charitable Gentlewomen their Closets well furnished with various Medicines for the Poors use, and for their own also, when *Physicians* are called to their houses in the Country? Distillers of Strong-waters, Makers of Plaisters, Confectioners make Medicines bought by the *Apothecaries*, Ale-Houses sell purging Drinks, and Booksellers sell Chymical Medicines, and all this without much regret of the *Apothecaries*. But if a *Physician* intermix a Medicine with theirs, though the *Patients* life be saved thereby, what noise, and murmuring, and proclaiming of it the next Market-day to the rest of their Company! to what purpose any one may judg.

Seventhly, Why should not *Physicians*, being lawfully authorized thereunto, practise with their own Medicines, as well as the *Apothecaries* with theirs, though against Law, and incurring thereby the penalty of 5 *l. per* Month, which the *Colledg* never troubled them for, or exacted of them?

Eighthly, *Physicians* will be necessitated to it for their subsistence and honour, and to preserve their Art from being prostituted to illiterate persons, the *Apothecaries* becoming now their Competitors.

Ninthly, By this means *Physicians* will avoid multitudes of inconveniencies, proceeding from writing of Bills, and the *Apothecaries* Visits.

First, The mistakes, and frauds in the Ingredients, especially committed by the great practising *Apothecaries*,

caries, who may, as appears by the following ſtory, be ſuſpected to ſend, inſtead of what was preſcribed, the remains of his own practice, or elſe ſome caſt-by Medicines; for elſe how could it be when a Medicine was preſcribed to ſtand in Infuſion or ſteep a whole night, that it ſhould be brought two hours after the Bill was written, even the very ſame Evening? Which by accident the *Patient* confeſſed, wanting the expected ſucceſs.

Secondly, By this courſe *Phyſicians* will avoid the many opprobrious terms caſt upon them by *Apothecaries*:

As *Firſt*, In ſaying that if he had not omitted or added ſomething, the *Patient* might have miſcarried; which he may ſay at pleaſure without any contradiction, though doubtleſs many have been killed by this means.

Secondly, By ſaying the Bill could never have been made without ſome alteration of the *Apothecary*, thereby inſinuating the *Doctors* ignorance in compounding.

Thirdly, In ſaying the *Doctor* is not verſed in Medicines, becauſe forſooth he varieth not at every Viſit, and multiplieth not new Bills for the *Apothecaries* profit.

Fourthly, In ſaying they teach *Phyſicians* and help them to, and in their practice. The firſt and laſt are vile and fooliſh Scandals; as to the Second, 'tis true indeed, that younger *Apothecaries* recommend *Phyſicians* to their acquaintance; but 'tis no longer then they have learned enough (as they think) to ſet up for themſelves.

Fifthly, In ſaying, they knew before-hand what

ſuch a *Doctor* would preſcribe, and hence it is they have nick-named ſome *Phyſicians* of no mean practice, by the Medicines they frequently uſe, which names in reſpect to the perſons, I ſhall conceal; and of ſuch *Phyſicians*, they brag they can preſcribe as well as they. But if a *Phyſician* adviſe things unknown to them, or out of the common tract, then they ſay the *Doctor* intends to puzzle them.

Sixthly, He will avoid the cenſure of his Bills, which every pitiful fellow, nay their very Boys will abſolve or condemn at pleaſure, and that openly too, nay ſometimes to the *Patient* himſelf, and thereby call in his good *Apothecaries Phyſician*. Now what a ſhame is it, that a *Phyſicians* credit and livelihood, ſhould ſtand at the mercy of ſuch pitiful ignorant Souls? I have heard one of them ſay of the now moſt Eminent Practicer in *London*, that his Boy could write as good a Method as he, and that he underſtood the practice of *Phyſick* as well as any *Phyſician* in *London*, except 2, or 3, though the ſame perſon was ſoon made to confeſs, he neither knew the Diſeaſe, Cauſe, nor Cure of a Pleuriſy, pretended to be throughly underſtood by him. *Thirdly*, He will avoid the trouble put upon him after he hath writ his Bill, by the *Apothecaries* ignorance in not underſtanding it, who to be informed came to the *Doctor* heretofore, with their Hats off, but now ſend their Boys, who ſoon put theirs on. Such reſpect do they give *Phyſicians*, when they come to them as to their Maſters to teach them. *Fourthly*, He will avoid the impertinent Viſits of the *Apothecaries*, and non-ſenſical, troubleſome, and diſcouraging, frightful diſcourſes to the *Patient*, of whom no man can expect more

then

then the Common Proverb gives to Praters, and impertinent Speakers, *That they talk like Apothecaries.* *Fifthly*, He will avoid the miſchiefs from their Viſits, who by their ſhrugs, ſigns, or words, may diminiſh the *Phyſicians* reputation, and good opinion, whether in his ſkill, or Medicines, whereby good Medicines are neglected, and the expectation of a good ſucceſs upon the uſe of them taken away, or at leaſt cauſe an averſeneſs to them; which actings do exceedingly prejudice the *Patient*, in reference to his Cure.

Sixthly, He will avoid this inconvenience, that ſome *Apothecaries* have attributed the Cure to ſome of their intermixed Medicines, or alteration of the *Doctors* Bill.

Seventhly, He will avoid that incivility of ſuch of them, who in the *Phyſicians* preſence, will feel the Pulſe, judg of the Urine, diſcourſe the Cauſe, Nature, what the Diſeaſe is, and what will be the iſſue of it, propoſe Medicines, nay ſometimes endeavour to adviſe with the *Phyſician*, to contradict and diſpute with him, to compare and ſet himſelf above the *Phyſician*; and to ſay truth, theſe odious Compariſons daily complained of by my Collegues, were a great cauſe of my departing from them.

Eighthly, He will avoid thoſe Scandals they have opportunity to raiſe, that ſuch a *Phyſician* is Covetous, Proud, Negligent, and minds not his practice, and the like without the leaſt ground, and is frequently by ſuch Artifices, the Cauſe of introducing another *Phyſician*, knowing that thereby more Bills will come to his File, and many times the former Medicines be layed aſide, and in this ſhuffling in and out of *Phyſicians*, he hath commonly a great ſhare. *Ninthly*,

Ninthly, *Apothecaries* being now Competitors with *Physicians* for practice, and down-right Enemies to such as make their own Medicines; why should not we suspect them of this false Play, by telling the *Patient* the *Doctors* Medicine will not work (which he knows well enough how to do) and then to tell him he will prepare him one of his own that will work, when perhaps this he calls his own preparation, was nothing but what the *Doctor* had prescribed before; and by this Artifice advanceth himself above the *Physician*.

Another mischief in sending Bills to the *Apothecaries* is, that though the *Apothecaries* be honest, and who can tell which of them is so, yet the Servants neglect, or ignorance (to whom they commit the whole care of dispensing, and are intruth the *Apothecaries* (and not their Masters) may mar all in their Masters absence, who is visiting abroad, or at his recreations.

And now I have done with the unpleasant task of raking into the faults of the *Apothecaries*, and with discoursing how *Physicians* may save themselves from their devices, I shall now shew the advantages that will come to the *Patient*, the *Physician*, and people, by this way of remedy proposed.

As for the *Patients*, they may hereby save most of the great charges of *Apothecaries* Bills, which in long Cases amount to very great sums in a year, although the *Physician* hath received very few Fees; the *Physician* may so order his business as to take his Fee for his Visits only, and at home such competent Fees for his advice alone, as are usually given, and in both Cases take nothing for his Medicines, and so save the *Patient* the whole charge of the *Apothecaries* Bill, which very seldom comes short,

ſhort, and for the moſt part manifoldly exceeds the *Phyſicians* Fees. And this he may very well do by making fewer, leſs chargable, more effectual, and durable Medicines then the Shops, and ſuffer nothing in the non-uſe, or decay of his Medicines; becauſe he need make no more then will ſerve his own practice, and I muſt here profeſs, that which I intended not to have publiſhed, that this is the courſe I have generally taken, for the four Months laſt paſt, ſince I made my own Medicines, but that ſome *Apothecaries* have given out moſt falſly, that I have ſent in Bills to *Patients* for money; but to convince ſuch of their wonted lying, I do hereby oblige my ſelf to give 100 *pound* to any of them that ſhall produce ſuch a Bill. *Secondly*, This way will not clog the *Patient* with more Medicines then are needful, nor will omit any thing may conduce to his recovery, for if he fails in either, 'tis to his prejudice, either in ſpending more Medicines which coſt him money, or in not curing, which loſeth his practice.

But I do not propoſe this courſe of mine as a general rule to all *Phyſicians*, but leave this to every mans private judgment; Neither do I hereby bind my ſelf to the ſame practice, becauſe ſome few Caſes may fall out (though to an equal advantage to the *Patient*) may perſwade me to the contrary, for I find ſome perſons of that perſwaſion, as to think they have not given ſatisfaction, unleſs they have payed for the Medicines, but to ſuch perſons, I have always allowed them to give me what they pleaſed themſelves, for the cure only, to the full ſatisfaction of both parties. Though I will not deny but ſome perſons out of gratitude

for

for their Cure, have rewarded me beyond this propoſal.

Now the great charge of *Apothecaries* Bills, and nauſeouſneſs of their Medicines, appears to be the cauſe why long habitual diſeaſes, as the Kings Evil, Falling-Sickneſs, Convulſions, Melancholies, and Winds in the Bowels, Gouts, *&c.* become ſeldom relieved, but which may with a conſtant, facile way, be perfectly cured, where neither the great charge, nor unpleaſantneſs of Medicines, deterr them from a continued neceſſary uſe of Remedies. And for the ſame reaſons many will be kept from relapſes, who being tired out with taking variety of Medicines, give over before the tone and ſtrength of their parts is reſtored, which is neceſſary to be done in all long Diſeaſes.

He may ſo contrive his Medicines, firſt, That they may be taken in ſmall quantity, and be made more grateful to the taſt, and ſtomach, and perform more then thoſe of the *Apothecaries*, commonly ſlovenly made, and of themſelves Fulſom, Nauſeous, and Sluggiſh. Secondly, His Medicines made for particular perſons, may laſt Weeks, Months, nay Years, whereas the *Apothecaries* Drinks, eſpecially in the Summer time, muſt be renewed once, or twice every day, to the exceſſive charge of the *Patient*.

That his Medicines may be fewer, is evident in *Phyſicians* that practiſe in the Country, who ride far to *Patients*, and carry in their Mans Cloak-bag, Medicines enough, not only for the perſon he is ſent to, but alſo for moſt other perſons, and Caſes he meets with in his Travels, and therefore his Cloſet needs contain but few, yet noble and generous Medicines, and ſuch as

may

may ſerve him upon all occaſions, ſupplying what's defective from the Fields or Gardens. He may avoid all pompous, uſeleſs, chargable Medicines of the Shops, and ſubſtitute in their place, cheaper, and more conducible to health; He may very well lay aſide the precious Stones, Saphir, Emerals, *&c.* the high priced Magiſtrals of Coral, and Pearl, made worſe by their preparations, or rather deſtroyed thereby in their Vertue, as alſo Unicorns Horn, and Bezoar, all which are now rarely uſed alone, but in the received Compoſitions; He may alſo ſpare the charges of leaf-gold, for guilding Pots, Glaſſes, Pills, Electuaries, Boles, *&c.* which ſerves only to raiſe the Bill.

He may teach the *Patients* facile and eaſie Remedies, as to make a Clyſter, apply Bliſters, or Medicines to the feet, where they are needful, *&c.* and in many Caſes may cure by well ordering his *Patient* only, without any Remedies at all, or but very few, being free to act for the *Patients* Health, without the grumbling of the *Apothecary*; and many other ways he may daily meet with, very advantageous to the *Patient.*

He will have little uſe of Conſerves, Syrups, Lohocks, *&c.* a greater part whereof Sugar makes up, which doth more hurt to moſt perſons, then the other ingredients do good.

He need not uſe ſo large Compoſitions made up of ſuch confuſed and contrary ingredients, and will find good reaſon to lay aſide thoſe unintelligible and unreaſonable Compoſitions of Mithridate, and Treacle, and the ſo much magnified Treacle-water, and will

ſubſtitute better in their places, of ſmaller charge, and leſs trouble; and this all *Phyſicians* I have converſed with, and the *Colledg* it ſelf, by their Book publiſhed for the common good, in the year before the Plague, and all thoſe *Phyſicians* in this City, who make or intend to make their own Medicines, do confeſs.

But here *Apothecaries* open wide, and cry out that the *Phyſicians* are great Cheats, and envious perſons, for continuing ſuch flat Medicines, and not recommending to the World their greater ſecrets. The anſwer is eaſie, that the Medicines in our *Pharmacopœa*, are the beſt of any other *Pharmacopœa* in the World, both for their goodneſs, and well preparing of them, whether they be Chymical, or Galenical; and therefore the ſame ſcandal will ly on all *Pharmacopœa's* whatſoever. *Secondly*, I ſay that within theſe few laſt experimental years, the practical part of Phyſick hath been much improved (as well as Anatomy) eſpecially by ſuch as have put their hands to work; and therefore till ſuch improvement, this could not be well amended. Furthermore, in making new Diſpenſatories, a full conſent muſt be had, and 'twere not fit to move where the motion were not like to take place, for though private men invent new ways of compounding and preparing, and uſing their own invented Medicines, yet 'twill require a long time to make them publickly known, and brought into common uſe, and till that be done 'tis not poſſible to have them brought into a common Diſpenſatory; beſides, no man would make a motion for ſuch a reformation, unleſs he were well furniſhed with ſpecificks, and then 'twill be required

of

of him to expoſe them to the whole World, which how incongruous it will be, every man may eaſily conceive; hereto add, that the *Apothecaries* think themſelves able enough by this preſent Diſpenſatory, to outbeard *Phyſicians*, and do publickly profeſs (as hath been ſaid) that they underſtand the practice of Phyſick as well as they; how much more would they have ſaid ſo, if they had been made Maſters of theſe ſecrets? And here I ſhall admoniſh thoſe of my own Faculty, who have devoted their Studies, Labours, and Purſes, for the improvement of their Art, to conſider, that as natural things have their bounds and limits, and that there is no new Creation of them, and beſides, that theſe things have their bounds alſo of improvement, beyond which 'tis impoſſible for man to go; and that by a good method and induſtry, that end may be attained; though at preſent I muſt confeſs, no Art is more capable of enlargement then ours: I ſay let all conſider, and they will find, what a vaſt encouragement they have to improve their knowledg ſo far, that they ſhall not only be able to leave mankind deſtitute of no remedy Nature did ever produce; but alſo reſtore and ſettle thoſe Honours ignorant men would uſurp, upon the Learned Profeſſors of this Science; and I ſee no reaſon why *Phyſicians* ſhould communicate their ſecrets to ſuch perſons, who will make uſe of them, to the ruine of the Inventors, which is indeed a failer of truſt, for when a *Phyſician* writes his Bill, he truſts the *Apothecary* only with making the Medicine for a particular occaſion, and not to make uſe of it as his own when he pleaſeth for his own profit,

and the Inventor have no further benefit by it.

Laſtly, when Diſpenſatories were firſt made, the *Apothecaries* were really *Phyſicians* Servants, and wholy at their command, not in the leaſt intrenching on their buſineſs, and the rates of Medicines were reaſonable; but within theſe few laſt years they have ſet up for themſelves, and advanced the rates beyond all reaſon; and to be ſure, the more we teach them by our Books, the more they will tranſgreſs in both.

He may receive encouragement from what he diſcovers, that is more then ordinarily uſeful, whereas by writing Bills, he ſoon communicates to the ignorant and lazy, who will neither ſpend time nor money to advance the Art, but while the one is at work to his great charge, loſs of time, much pains and trouble, the others ſeek by petty tricks and Arts to gain a name, and profit from the induſtrious.

Hence alſo will ariſe an emulation amongſt *Phyſicians*, who ſhall exceed each other in noble remedies, and from thence a full and happy improvement of whatſoever God hath created for the recovery of mans health impaired; for from the *Phyſician* alone the advancement of Phyſick is to be expected. How many ſimples of unknown properties have been brought into uſe, to the great comfort of the ſick? and many more may be, as alſo many preparations, both ſimple and compound, both in the Galenical, and Chymical practice, and by this means the Art will be advanced to its juſt dignity, now much diminiſhed, diſhonoured,

and

and near to be loſt by the intruſion of ignorant perſons.

Greater reſpect will be given to ſuch *Phyſicians*, as being the immediate inſtruments of life and health, who will derive unto themſelves that which is now given to the *Apothecaries*, which proceeds chiefly from fear leſt they ſhould do the Patient hurt; and ſo their honour will be doubled, which every *Phyſician* looks principally at; but the *Apothecary* being not ſo far concerned looks principally at his profit, and regards not the Patients charge, whereas on the contrary, 'tis the *Phyſicians* Intereſt to cure the Patient with the greateſt eaſe.

He may proceed on ſafely and ſecurely in his well experienced Medicines, having before him not only what he hath preſcribed for the ſame Patient, but for all others in the like Caſe, and thereby keep in memory what he would have forgot, if his Bill had remained on the *Apothecaries* File; *viz.* the Medicines and their ſucceſs. By means whereof *Phyſicians* do not advance their knowledg ſo far as they might; for how is it poſſible they ſhould remember the particulars of their Bills writ ſome days before? and therefore know not how to proceed ſo well. But the *Apothecaries* having before them the whole ſeries of Medicines, brag they can do more then the *Phyſicians*, and by this means inſinuate the ſame opinion into people.

The *Phyſician* will be conſulted in the beginning of Diſeaſes, to the ſafety and little expence of the Patient, and not go firſt to the *Apothecary*, who practiſeth

on

on him till the Case is desperate, and then calls in a *Physician* when 'tis too late; and if he dyes, the *Physician* must carry away the disgrace alone; but if he recover, the *Apothecary* by some trick will share with him in the honour: and by this resort of people to the *Apothecaries* in beginning of Diseases, we meet with few Cases of easie Cure, but are chiefly made use of in dangerous Diseases, or those of short period, or such as are accompanyed with great pains and torments, to our great and continual anxiety.

The *Physicians* experience hereby as 'tis surer, so 'twill be greater.

He will make use of no Medicines but the choicest, and when they are in their full vigour, and such as are durable, and after once or twice Tryal of them, will seldom fail in his expected success; which cannot be certainly had without some tryal. For though a man buy the choicest ingredients *viz. Sena*, which may appear to the Senses very good, yet he cannot positively say, how well, nor yet what quantity of it will work, till he hath made use of it. But afterwards he may confidently apply the whole parcel he hath bought to his purpose. The like may be instanced in a crop of Wheat or Barley, which the skillfullest Husband-man cannot tell how they will yield for Bread, or Malt, till he hath used them. Now how is it possible that a *Physician* can with any certainty make use of several Shops, since there is so great difference in the ingredients? The same also may be said of Compositions, much more of Chymical Medicines so much sophisticated, and of so much danger and hazard, if not well pre-

prepared, which he cannot discover till he hath seen the effect of them, unless it be such as he makes himself, nor those neither till he hath made some use of them.

He will much inlarge *Materia Medica*, Chymistry and Pharmacy, and discover the grounds of them, and wherein the efficacy of remedies lyes, and thereby lay open a whole Ocean for new discoveries, and by the by observe many useful products and Phænomena of Nature, not taken notice of by *Apothecaries*, and their Servants; for all which they have neither will nor skill.

He will gain and keep to himself Patients, who have diseases they are unwilling should be known by *Apothecaries* and their Boys, and all such as have a mind to turn over their File.

The Patient will have better opinion of the Medicines, and confidence in the use of them, and the *Physician* be more satisfied in his Conscience, and better assured of the success.

He will gain reputation to his Art by restoring it to its first institution and practice, by the Founders and Heroes of Physick.

By constantly practised Medicines he will find out a better method of Cure, and arrive at the true causes of diseases.

He will have more scope to be charitable to the poor and his friends, by curing them *gratis*.

He need not trouble himself with ways of concealing the use of his Medicines, by setting down no directions in his Bill, but giving them to the Patient, which the *Apothecary* soon learns; nor with giving some

of

of his own Medicines at a pinch, which if they ſucceed not, to be ſure the *Apothecaries* will cry down in all places, but will conceal all eminently good ſucceſſes, as diſadvantageous to himſelf.

One ſingular advantage ſuch a *Phyſician* will have, that the ſlanders of the *Apothecaries* will appear to be malicious, as being raiſed againſt ſuch as act contrary to their profit.

By this means *Phyſicians* will unite againſt the common Enemy, will contribute mutual aſſiſtance, and communicate more freely to one another, and alſo the frauds and unlawful practices of the *Apothecaries*, will conceal the counſels, and act whatſoever may tend to the advance of their Art; and Patients alſo will diſcover the *Apothecaries* cenſures, and practices againſt the *Phyſician* and their preſcriptions.

Hereby that great intereſt will decay *Apothecaries* have in Families for their petty officiouſneſſes (which *Phyſicians* not to diſpleaſe them have put them upon) theſe will be taught Nurſes, and the aſſiſtants, and which are by ſome of theſe as well, certainly more diligently performed then by the *Apothecaries*.

Hereby *Chirurgeons* will be reſtored to ſome of their employment now uſurped by the *Apothecaries*, as letting of blood, applying Leeches, Plaſters, Cupping-Glaſſes, Syringing and Salivation, *&c.* which indeed do more properly belong to them then to the *Apothecaries*; hereby alſo all occaſions of quarrel betwixt *Phyſicians* and the *Apothecaries* will ceaſe, each party acting according to his own way.

By this means Pſeudochymiſts, and other Mountebanks

banks mouths and revilings will be ſtopped, only exclaiming for this, that they make not their own Medicines.

And as for the reaſonableneſs of it, that the *Phyſician* to ſupport himſelf by all lawful ways and means, and to have præeminence above thoſe ignorant perſons that incroach upon his profeſſion, 'tis confeſſed by all that have conſidered the great charge, ſtudy, and labour, before he can arrive at any benefit from it; for he muſt take the chargeable degrees of Batchellor, and Maſter of Arts, Batchellor of Phyſick, and after 14 years ſtanding, the degree of *Doctor*; beſides his bare expences for his maintenance in the Univerſity, Charges in Anatomies, knowledg of natural things; Travels abroad, Chymiſtry, and Experiments; his Library, Habit, his more free way of living in a ſuitable houſe, and Attendants, greater Taxes, *&c.* inſomuch that a *Doctor* of Phyſick ſpends more before he comes to practiſe, then will ſet up perhaps a dozen *Apothecaries* in a way of lively-hood; and beſides great ſums of money before he can put himſelf in a fitting Equipage: whereas on the contrary, many young men before their time of Apprenticeſhip is out, provide well for themſelves by Quacking; and certainly the Study of Phyſick, and conſequently the knowledge of Nature muſt bid farewel to the Univerſities, if Shops be permitted to make practiſers, for ſuch the people will ſoon create *Doctors*, which title the *Apothecary* takes upon him, though he underſtand not the reaſon of the name, to the great ſhame of the Univerſities, and Faculty, when ignorant people ſhall give, and they

challenge the ſame title for nothing, attained by the *Phyſician* at a great rate; the vulgar taking Practiſer and *Doctor* to ſignify the ſame thing. And which no perſons of knowledg and education do, and perhaps moſt other perſons give them in way of Jeering.

From the handſom ſupport of *Phyſicians* theſe benefits will accrue to the publick, that thereby the honour all Nations yield to the Engliſh *Phyſicians*, who in the late times, when the reputation of the Nation was well neer forfeited abroad, the *Phyſicians* then in being, moſt whereof are now living, and Members of the Colledg, maintained the learning and value of this Kingdom, and ſince his Majeſties happy return, ſome of them have kept up the honour of the Faculty; which manifeſtly appears by the great eſteem Forreigners have of their Books, by often printing them, and tranſlating into Latin what hath been publiſhed in Engliſh, though they are no where ſo depreſſed as in *England*.

A ſecond benefit to the publick is, that men of competent Eſtates will breed up their Sons in the Art of Phyſick, giving them ſuch education as is neceſſary, and will diſdain to place them out to the labour of *Apothecaries*; though now adays want of learning and degrees are adjudged as needful a qualification for the exerciſe of Phyſick, as formerly 'twas for Preaching, and the Shops fit to ſupply both.

I will conclude this part of my diſcourſe with this obſervation; that the Laws of *England* in all their Acts of Parliament, have granted *Phyſicians* the practice of Phyſick

Phyſick to them, and them alone, and in no clauſe thereof put in any reſtraint at all, but every where, either new priviledges, or a confirmation of the old have been granted.

The next thing to be treated of, ſhall be the ways of *Apothecaries* creeping into practice, and their unfitneſs thereunto. As to the firſt, heretofore when they were Members of the Company of Grocers, and diſperſed in place, as well as in counſel, they then were wholy ſubordinate to the *Phyſicians*, only keeping in their Shops, and faithfully making the preſcriptions they received from the *Phyſician*, and when made, ſending them to the Patient by their men (as they ſtill continue to do in Foreign Countries) and not committing the preparation to raw Boys, or Apprentices, which is the true intereſt of the Patient they ſhould do here likewiſe. But in proceſs of time *Phyſicians* in acute diſeaſes having taught them ſomewhat, ſent them to viſit their Patients, to give them the beſt account they could of the eſtate of their health, and effect of their Medicines. And of later years ſome *Phyſicians* took them along with them in their Viſits, whereby they acquired a little ſmattering of diſeaſes, by which means, and their continual officiouſneſs, they inſinuated themſelves into Families, and by applying (right or wrong) the terms of Art they have learned from the *Phyſicians*, they made people believe they had acquired ſome ſkill in the Art, and afterwards began to venture a little at practice, and but until theſe 10 years laſt paſt kept themſelves within ſome bounds and limits; but ſince that time have daily more and more

incroached upon our Profeſſion, being aſſiſted by a greater familiarity of converſation with younger *Phyſicians*. And in the Plague time (moſt *Phyſicians* being out of Town) they took upon them the whole Practice of Phyſick, which ever ſince they have continued, being much helped alſo therein by the diſperſing of *Phyſicians* into places unknown to their Patients by the Fire, but above all by the burning of the *Colledg*, by means whereof their Government and view of their Shops have been omitted, inſomuch that now their paſt reſtraint having inſinuated and (as they think) rooted themſelves by the aforeſaid Artifices, ſo that there remains now no other real remedy but that propoſed.

As to their incapacity for Practice, 'tis manifeſt by their education, and ignorance of all thoſe things which are required in an able *Phyſician*, *viz.* the knowledg of Arts and Languages; by the former whereof men learn the way and rules of obſerving, and improvements to be made thereon; by the latter, what the learned ſearchers of Nature have in all Ages taken notice of, neceſſary, and little enough in an Art ſo difficult as that of Phyſick. They are wholy ignorant alſo of all Philoſophy, and the very Elements of the Art, and therefore unſkillful in knowing diſeaſes, and more ſurely their cauſes, whereto, as well as to the diſeaſes, fit remedies are to be applyed. For want of Anatomy know neither the part affected, nor how 'tis affected; much leſs any thing of Chirurgical directions. And through their ignorance in Philoſophy, and Arts, they have not ſkill enough to adviſe a diet ſutable to diſeaſes,

ſeaſes, nor the true grounds and reaſons of compounding, practiſing their way rather by rote then by rule.

And to conceal their miſ-actings, they generally do all by word of mouth, and not enter their preſcriptions into their Books, being happily aſhamed any knowing men ſhould diſcover their ſins of omiſſion, as dangerous many times in point of life and health, as thoſe of commiſſion. Whereas *Phyſicians* Bills are on the File, or regiſtred in Order in their own Books, which is their juſtification from all miſ-repreſentations.

Again, they ſufficiently confeſs their ignorance, by calling in *Phyſicians* when their own or any of their relations healths are concerned, and the ſame all people acknowledge, when they are in diſtreſs and danger. And very few underſtanding perſons, and none that are learned and knowing will truſt them at all. But I ſhall refer the Reader to the forementioned Writer againſt the *Apothecaries*, by whom this and many other things here but briefly touched, are judiciouſly handled, and more largely.

And as for their ſkill in practice we daily ſee their groſs errours and omiſſions, being called where they have given Medicines. I ſhall inſtance only in one that hapned at the writing hereof; *viz.* that an *Apothecary* gave ſtrong Purging Pills on the Fit day of a gentle Quartan Ague, which turned it into a violent Fever, to the great hazard of the Patients life.

And at how eaſie rates they practiſe, many of their Bills

Bills brought and complained of to our *Colledg*, witneſs, wherein upon a ſlight diſeaſe 5 *l.* hath been demanded for four days practice. And I have heard one of them brag, that he commonly had from 20 to 100 *l.* beſides preſents for cure of a Clap (as they call it) which might have been more ſpeedily and ſecurely performed for a manifold leſſer ſum.

I now come to anſwer ſome ſlight objections; as firſt, that *Phyſicians* are unſkillful in the Art of making Medicines; but ſure thoſe that thus object cannot deny them that ability which Ladies, and almoſt all ordinary women have; *viz.* of diſtilling of waters of all ſorts, making of Syrups, Conſerves, Preſerves, Powders, Trochiſchs, Electuaries (and what not) and as many think, more cleanly and neatly then the *Apothecaries*; and ſome of them Ointments, and Plaſters, in which two, lyes their main ſkill. Some whereof, to thoſe that underſtand not the way of diſſolution of bodies, and the nature of their mixture, may be difficult. Yet this defect they may ſupply by leſſening the number of ingredients, and may perform more with 2, or 3 Simples, then with the larger Compoſitions, as 'tis manifeſt in the uſe of *Galbanum* alone, now uſed and found better then *Emplaſtrum Hyſtericum*, conſiſting of 21 ingredients.

And though as matters now ſtand, *Phyſicians* have not the honour to be counted ſuperiour to *Apothecaries* in their Art, yet every one knows that they alone are the preſcribers and directors of the *Apothecaries* in what they know, and are able to puzzle them in infinite

nite things that concern their Trade, beſides in Chymical preparations, whereof moſt of them are totally ignorant; and ſhould *Phyſicians* withdraw themſelves from their converſation, few pretenders to Phyſick would appear more unſkillful then they, neither knowing how to deal with a new Simple, nor a new diſeaſe. And for all their pretences of ſkill in Drugs, 'tis moſt certain that the State makes *Phyſicians*, not *Apothecaries*, Judges of them; and the Statute of *Henry* the VIII. appoints the *Colledg* Cenſors upon Oath, not the *Apothecaries*, to judg, and condemn falſe and ſophiſticated Medicines.

A ſecond objection wherewith they flatter themſelves, is, that the great expence of time in preparing Medicines will keep *Phyſicians* from this courſe. I anſwer, that the *Phyſician* need not ſpend much more then half an hour in a day, one with another on this work, and may faſter diſpenſe them then the *Apothecaries* to Hoſpitals, who in an afternoon can provide for 200 ſick men, and carry them to the Hoſpital, and diſpoſe them to each ſingle perſon, which takes up much time, which the *Phyſicians* Servants need not be put to.

A third objection is, that this courſe, which before 'twas put in practice they derided now uſed is railed at, will undo them. I anſwer, that if needs, one or the other muſt be ruined, 'tis more reaſonable that the *Apothecary* ſhould ſuffer then the *Phyſician*, becauſe the one acts but his duty, and for the publick good, but the other are tranſgreſſors of the Law, and act above the Sphere of their ſkill, and do many prejudices to the

the precious lives, and healths of men; and the rather becauſe 'tis in their own power to prevent this miſchief, by ſtinting the number of their Servants (as 'tis in foreign parts) for they acknowledg themſelves, that the exceeding increaſe of their number muſt neceſſarily in a ſhort time bring them all to ſhifting and beggery, and a greater want of ſkill then what they now pretend to. Beſides, why may not the Plaiſterer more reaſonably pretend the ſame to the Painter, and many other Trades againſt one another, as the Bricklayer to the Stone-Cutter, *&c.* that they underſtand the Trade, and that truly too, and that they cannot ſubſiſt without this incroachment? And why ſhould not *Chirurgeons* keep open *Apothecaries* Shops? but that the ſame Law limits thoſe Tradeſmen, as well as prohibits the *Apothecary* from the practice of Phyſick. And ſurely the Law and State have no conſideration of thoſe perſons ſubſiſtence, who conform not to them; and why ſhould we have of thoſe, ſubordinate to us, who againſt all good Conſcience take away from us all that is our due, and continually traduce and ſlander us very untruly and deſiningly.

The laſt objection (and a ſtrange one) is, that in this private way of giving Medicines, *Phyſicians* may poyſon their Patients. But this is eaſily retorted upon the *Apothecaries*, who may themſelves or their Servants do the like, as 'tis known in the poyſoning of Sir *Thomas Overbury*; beſides, ſince it cannot be otherwiſe, but that the Patient muſt truſt ſomebody, that 'tis better to truſt one then many; and if one, better him whoſe education will teach him better morality, then ſuch as want

want theſe qualifications. More noble and generous was the opinion of *Alexander* the Great, concerning his *Phyſician*, who confidently drank off that Medicine which cured him, though he was before informed by ſome friend that 'twas poyſoned. Neither can Hiſtory it ſelf to my knowledg produce any example, that ever any ſuch fooliſh Villany was acted.

In the next place I ſhall recite ſome few of their devices againſt thoſe *Phyſicians* in particular that make their own Medicines, as to tell the Patient that is averſe to Chymical Medicines, that the *Doctor* is Chymical, and that becauſe forſooth he makes his own Medicines; but to thoſe that affect Chymical, that the *Doctor* is but a Galeniſt, and uſeth only dull and ineffectual remedies, as beſt ſuits to the ſick mans Palat. A ſecond is, that if this *Phyſician* be called in to a Patient, the *Apothecary* will pretend preſent danger, and in his abſence call in another, or pretend he is abroad when he is not, or elſe that the Caſe requires the counſel of two *Phyſicians*; and what other devices they uſe, I have not well learned.

Now briefly follow ſome ſmall Scandals they caſt upon the ſaid *Phyſicians*, as firſt that they do it for want of practice; the falſity whereof is known by thoſe few that do act this way already, and ſhortly 'twill be more apparent, when many more of good practice, ſingular parts and honeſty will do the like, and certainly nothing but lazineſs, ignorance, or want of will to do the utmoſt good they are able for the ſick can hinder them from ſo doing, except age, infirmity of body, or want of convenience. But ſuppoſe 'tis ſo

as they alledg, doubtleſs every man may and ought to uſe all lawful means for his own ſubſiſtence, and do not our adverſaries ſay they are inforced to it, affirming that unleſs they give Medicines of themſelves, their acquaintance will go to another *Apothecary* who will do it, though one of their Company told me, they had power by their Charter to reſtrain practice. Whence (if true) it clearly follows that the whole Company allows it.

But thoſe *Phyſicians*, that for the reaſons above, cannot nor will not take this courſe, are to be admoniſhed, to do here as the *Phyſicians* did in *France*, for the good of people, *viz.* to tell their Patients the prices of Medicines, and to write their Bills in Engliſh, that thereby the Patients may not pay too unreaſonable for them.

Candid Reader, Finding ſome vacant paper, I here (though in undue place) add ſome few things pretermitted amongſt others wholy omitted.

1. The Company of the *Apothecaries* are bound by their Charter to bring their Servants (before they make them Free) to be examined by the *Cenſors* of our *Colledg*, and to have their approbation of their fitneſs to exerciſe their Art, and ſet up their Trade. Now that they have herein neglected their duty, and conſequently may be diſ-franchiſed and loſe their Freedoms for this reaſon, 'tis manifeſt not only by the vapours of ſome of them to ſome members of our Body, that they never underwent this examination; but alſo by comparing of our Regiſter (wherein are recorded the

the names of all ſuch as have been examined) with theirs, if they keep any for this purpoſe. Sure I am, that in two years together, when I was *Cenſor*, very few if any did appear to their examination, whereas yearly a very great number ſet up their Trades.

2. 'Tis convenient to adjoin the old way of educating young men into the practice of Phyſick, and ſurely the ſafer for the Patients health; and I could wiſh 'twere reſtored to its former uſage, which was this. The Senior *Phyſician* carried his Son, or ſuch as he intended to ſucceed him in his practice, along with him when he viſited his Patients, diſcovering, and diſcourſing with them the diſeaſe, cauſe, method of cure, and what remedies were fit to be applied to the preſent Caſe, and to try them what they would do in that or the like Caſe. And when his occaſions would not permit him to viſit himſelf, he then ſent one of his Scholars to inform him of the condition of the ſick perſon, and the effect of his Medicines; and alſo when the ſaid Scholars had leiſure, they were employ'd to help to gather, prepare, and make, or overſee the compounding of Medicines. And ſuch Scholars they call'd *filii Artis*, ſons of Art. Some of the Profeſſors in Foreign parts practiſe the moſt of this to this very day with ſuch as travel thither, confirming their reading with experience.

3. As to the improvement of Medicines, this may be added, by the experimenting *Phyſician*, that in diſtill'd waters he will conſider and find which of

them will afford any virtue, which only phlegm equivalent but to Conduit-water, which of them will keep long, and in perfection, which ſoon or in what time decay, and ſpend them accordingly, and in compound diſtill'd waters, will find cauſe to lay aſide many ſimples as nothing conducing, or rather weakning the efficacy of the Medicine deſigned; whereby much charge and trouble will be ſpared, and better compoſitions be made.

4. As for Infuſions and Decoctions, he will find by experiment, how much liquor, or *Menſtruum* will ſuffice to extract the full vertue of the ingredients, and what are helps, or hinderances thereunto, and thereby neither ſuffer loſs in the quantity, or quality of them.

5. He will diſcover the inefficacy of many of the Syrups in the Shops, made of ſuch ingredients, the qualities whereof what with boiling, what with the great quantity of Sugar neceſſary to keep them, are either made uſeleſs, or oppoſite to the ends they are propoſed for.

6. He will obſerve what Medicines by precipitation or other ways, alter, deſtroy, or weaken one another, whereby of good ingredients ſingly uſed, a bad Compoſition may be made, and therefore fail in the ſucceſs expected. Many more things might be here added, which a ſkillful obſerver, and verſed in the way to make experiments (no eaſie matter) will daily find, and at preſent I do not ſo much as give hints of them, but ſhall hereafter, as occaſion and opportunity require.

I now conclude, having performed this ungrateful taſk with as much brevity, mildneſs of Spirit, and language, as the buſineſs would permit, being obliged to another work of greater difficulty, and concern, long ſince promiſed, having been too long diverted with fitting my ſelf for my intended practice, and ſeveral other unavoidable Occaſions.

PAg. 42. l. 9. after *Engliſh Phyſicians*, add *will be kept up.*

FINIS.